

Message Text

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ORIGIN CG-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 DODE-00 PM-05
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DRAFTED BY USCG:RABILLER/BD
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
INFO COAST GUARD WASHDC 0424

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, EG, US.

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF OMEGA NAVIGATION SYSTEM MONI-
TORING STATION IN EGYPT

REF: ALEXANDRIA 0441

1. REFTEL DISCUSSESA MATTER WHICH HAS BEEN SUBJECT
OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN U.S. COAST GUARD (USCG) AND
COMMODORE HUSSEIN DURING PAST SEVERAL MONTHS. IT APPEARS
THAT SOME BACKGROUND INFO WOULD BE USEFUL AT THIS JUNCTURE.

2. IN DEC. 1976 DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZED USCG TO CONCLUDE A
SERIES OF AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN AGENCIES FOR PURPOSE OF
OPERATING MONITORING STATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH OMEGA
NAVIGATION SYSTEM. OMEGA SYSTEM IS A SHORE-BASED ELEC-
TRONIC AID TO NAVIGATION THAT USES MEASURED SIGNAL PHASE
DIFFERENCES FROM PAIRS OF TRANSMITTING STATIONS FOR FIXING
POSITION OF VESSELS. EIGHT VERY LOW FREQUENCY (VLF) TRANS-
MITTERS ARE IN OPERATION, TWO OF WHICH ARE LOCATED IN THE
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U.S. UPON COMPLETION, OMEGA SYSTEM WILL INCLUDE A WORLD-
WIDE NETWORK OF SOME 60 MONITORING STATIONS FOR COLLECTING
OMEGA SYSTEM DATA FOR CORRECTING PROPAGATION OF VLF SIGNAL.

3. AS INDICATED IN REFTEL, HUSSEIN HAS PROPOSED AMTA AS
SITE FOR EMPLACEMENT OF OMEGA MONITOR IN EGYPT. IT IS NOT

ENTIRELY CLEAR WHETHER THIS PROPOSAL HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH GOE. AT ANY RATE, DEPARTMENT IS NOT ANXIOUS TO ENCOURAGE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN USCG AND INTERNATIONAL (OR REGIONAL) ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS AMTA. RATHER, WE WOULD PREFER THAT AN AGREEMENT BE CONCLUDED WITH AN AGENCY OF GOE SUCH AS EGYPTIAN NAVAL HYDROGRAPHIC DEPT. (FYI: ACTUAL SITING OF MONITOR AT AMTA WOULD NOT PRESENT PROBLEMS AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED.)

4. WHILE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION, PROPOSED AGREEMENT ENVISAGES THAT USCG WOULD PROVIDE ALL EQUIPMENT (A PORTABLE, SOLID-STATE MONITOR AND ACCESSORIES) AND SPARE PARTS, ASSISTANCE IN INSTALLING MONITOR AND ANY MAJOR REPAIRS. USCG WOULD RETAIN TITLE TO EQUIPMENT. HOST AGENCY WOULD PROVIDE A MONITOR STATION LOCATION, ELECTRIC POWER, AND PERSONNEL TO OPERATE EQUIPMENT AND PERFORM ROUTINE SERVICING.

5. HOST AGENCY WOULD AGREE TO PROCESS DATA RECEIVED AND PERIODICALLY TO FORWARD ORIGINAL RECORDINGS TO USCG. THERE WOULD BE NO RESTRICTIONS ON USE OR DISSEMINATION OF BASIC DATA COLLECTED.

6. DEPARTMENT WILL POUCH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PACKAGE ON OMEGA INCLUDING SAMPLE AGREEMENT.

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7. REQUEST EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON THIS PROPOSAL, INCLUDING ESTIMATION OF LIKELY GOE RESPONSE TO PROPOSED AGREEMENT AND BEST METHOD OF PURSUING MATTER WITH APPROPRIATE AGENCY. CHRISTOPHER

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